

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. The specification has been amended to recite the priority information for this application. Compounds 2-12 have been deleted from claim 1. The phrase "and mixtures thereof" has been deleted from claim 2. Claim 4 has been amended to correct the spelling of the word "hormone." The term "recombinant human growth hormones" in claim 7 has been changed to its singular form. Claim 13 has been amended to recite "a poly(amino acid) comprising a compound of claim 1, a salt thereof or a mixture thereof." Claim 15 has been amended to correct the spelling of "diluent" and to insert commas after the terms "excipient" and "diluent". Claim 27 has been amended to insert the article "a" between "is" and "liquid", and the word "thereof" after "combination." New claims 30 and 31 have been added. Support for claims 30 and 31 is found at, for example, original claims 4 and 17. Claims 1-31 are pending and at issue.

The Examiner has required election in this application among the claims of:

Group I, claim 1, drawn to compounds 1-12; and

Group II, claims 2-29, drawn to compositions and dosage unit forms comprising compounds 1-12, a method for administering an active agent with compounds 1-12, and a method of preparing the composition.

Applicants respectfully traverse this restriction requirement.

The claims of Group II (claims 2-29) depend from the claim of Group I (claim 1) which recites compound 1 and salts thereof. Therefore, if the claim of Group I (claim 1) is patentable over the prior art, so too are the claims of Group II. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that the search and examination of the claims of Group I and II together would not be a serious burden upon the Examiner. See M.P.E.P. §803. Applicants request that the claims of I and II be examined together.

In order to be fully responsive, applicants provisionally elect the claim of Group I (claim 1) for further prosecution.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

Jay P. Wessler

Registration No.: 41,151

DARBY & DARBY P/C.

P.O. Box 5257

New York, New York 10150-5257

(212) 527-7700

(212) 527-7701 (Fax)

Attorneys/Agents For Applicant